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Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A coin configuration detection method that magnetically detects a configuration of a coin to identify a kind and/or authenticity of the coin, comprising:

~~characterized in that detecting~~ a magnetic flux change in a vicinity of a surface of the coin ~~is detected by using~~ a detection coil in which a coil central line ~~is extends~~ along the surface of the coin and a coil peripheral surface is locally opposed to the surface of the coin while an AC magnetic field along the surface of the coin is generated in an interior of ~~the coin~~ and/or in a surface space of the coin.

2. (Currently Amended) A coin identification sensor that magnetically detects a configuration of a coin to identify a kind and/or authenticity of the coin, comprising:

an exciting portion that generates an AC magnetic field along a surface of the coin in an interior of ~~the coin~~ and/or in a surface space of the coin; and

a detection coil ~~that is~~ disposed so that a coil central line ~~is extends~~ along the surface of the coin and a coil peripheral surface is locally opposed to the surface of the coin, ~~and the detection coil~~ detects a magnetic flux change in a vicinity of the surface of the coin.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The coin identification sensor according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the exciting portion is an exciting coil ~~being~~ disposed so that a coil inner peripheral surface or a coil peripheral surface is along the surface of the coin and ~~generating which generates~~ an AC magnetic field in the direction along the surface of the coin in the interior of ~~the coin~~ and/or in the surface space of the coin, and ~~that~~ the detection coil is disposed in or in a vicinity of an inner ~~surface peripheral~~ portion of the exciting coil ~~or in a~~

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~~vicinity thereof, or disposed in or in a vicinity of a peripheral portion of the exciting coil or in a vicinity thereof.~~coil.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The coin identification sensor according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the exciting portion has a plurality of coin adjacent portions, and is provided with a ferromagnetic core that forms a looped magnetic circuit with the interior and the surface space of the coin inside and an exciting coil that AC-excites the core and generates an AC magnetic field in the direction along the surface ~~of the coin~~ in the interior of the coin and/or in the surface space of the coin.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The coin identification sensor according to ~~any of Claims 2 to 4, Claim 2,~~ Claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the detection coil is a differential coil capable of detecting a differential voltage, and a pair of coils ~~constituting the~~ constitute a differential coil line along the surface of the coin.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The coin identification sensor according to ~~any of Claims 2 to 5, Claim 2,~~ Claim 2, ~~characterized in that the wherein a plurality of detection coil is~~ coils are provided in a plurality of numbers so as to line along the surface of the coin.

7. (Currently Amended) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to ~~any of Claims 2 to 6~~ Claim 2 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

8. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 3, wherein the detection coil is a differential coil capable of detecting a differential voltage, and a pair of coils constitute a differential coil line along the surface of the coin.

9. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 4, wherein the detection coil is a differential coil capable of detecting a differential voltage, and a pair of coils constitute a differential coil line along the surface of the coin.

10. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 3, wherein a plurality of detection coils are provided to line along the surface of the coin.

11. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 4, wherein a plurality of detection coils are provided to line along the surface of the coin.

12. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 5, wherein a plurality of detection coils are provided to line along the surface of the coin.

13. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 8, wherein a plurality of detection coils are provided to line along the surface of the coin.

14. (New) The coin identification sensor according to Claim 9, wherein a plurality of detection coils are provided to line along the surface of the coin.

15. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to Claim 3 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

16. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to Claim 4 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

17. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to Claim 5 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

18. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor

according to Claim 6 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

19. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to Claim 13 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.

20. (New) A coin identification apparatus that identifies a kind and/or authenticity of a coin, wherein a configuration of the coin is detected by the coin identification sensor according to Claim 14 and the kind and/or the authenticity of the coin is identified based on a detected configuration.